

# Veterans Services

**Fred Murphy, Veterans Service Officer**

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Veterans Services Office works in association with other government agencies to advocate for veteran's rights and to identify, apply for and retain benefits and services for veterans and their families.

## **VETERANS SERVICES FUND 100 / APPROPRIATION 53650**

	Actual 2001-02	Actual 2002-03	Requested 2003-04	Recommended 2003-04	Change %	Adopted 2003-04
<b>Expenditures</b>						
Salaries and Employee Benefits	\$ 177,136	\$ 192,974	\$ 206,323	\$ 206,323	7%	\$ 206,323
Services and Supplies	22,434	24,194	30,865	29,088	20%	29,088
Intra Fund Charges			584	584	100%	584
<b>Net Budget:</b>	<b>\$ 199,570</b>	<b>\$ 217,168</b>	<b>\$ 237,772</b>	<b>\$ 235,995</b>	<b>9%</b>	<b>\$ 235,995</b>
<b>Revenue</b>						
Intergovernmental Revenue	\$ 31,630	\$ 29,440	\$ 34,239	\$ 29,500	0%	\$ 29,500
Miscellaneous Revenue	-	-	-	13,000	100%	13,000
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$ 31,630</b>	<b>\$ 29,440</b>	<b>\$ 34,239</b>	<b>\$ 42,500</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>\$ 42,500</b>
<b>Net County Cost:</b>	<b>\$ 167,940</b>	<b>\$ 187,728</b>	<b>\$ 203,533</b>	<b>\$ 193,495</b>	<b>3%</b>	<b>\$ 193,495</b>
Allocated Positions	3	3	3	3	0%	3

## **CORE FUNCTION**

### **Veterans Services**

Veterans Services assists clients in obtaining benefits from state and federal government agencies including, but not limited to, the Department of Veterans Affairs for claims related to compensation and pensions, survivor benefits, education, vocational rehabilitation, home loans, life insurance, and burial benefits. One of the main functions of the office is to deliver the state of California's College Fee Waiver Program to the children of disabled veterans. The office also assists veterans in obtaining medical treatment from the Department of Veterans Affairs.

### **FY 2002-03 Major Accomplishments**

- Department head elected to be the first vice president for the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers.
- Worked in coordination with the County Office of Education to promote the College Fee Waiver Program.
- Provided a vital, timely and efficient system of services and advocacy to veterans, and for their dependents and survivors.
- In cooperation with the Child Support Services Department, prepared a family link to possible monetary benefits for veterans' families.
- Intervened on behalf of the veterans in solving difficulties with receiving benefits from the health care service delivery system for veterans.

## **Health & Human Support Services**

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## **FY 2003-04 Planned Accomplishments**

- Implement a new computer system that will help the office identify future claims, as well as track present claims better.
- Continue executive involvement with the California Association of County Veterans Service Officers and as a member of that organization's legislative committee.
- Continue outreach efforts to veterans and their families with a primary focus on veterans in the senior community.
- In cooperation with the Health and Human Services Department, develop a plan to redirect various medical services to veterans from Medi-Cal and Indigent Services funding.

## **Department Comments**

Due to changes in the medical-fee structure, the department effectively managed an increase in the number of veterans seeking assistance from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Staff expects the demand for claims in the next fiscal year to remain flat, with the requests for services to increase. The demand for monetary claims for veterans or their families confined to skilled nursing facilities is expected to increase in the next year, and this trend will continue into the future as the baby boomers continue to age.

## **County Executive Comments And Recommendations**

The net budget for the *Veteran's Service Officer* includes one-time revenue that will be received from a Veterans Vehicle License Fee Trust Fund (\$13,000) to offset modest expenditure increases, including funding for the department head to remain active in statewide issues and committees that benefit Placer County. This budget will be monitored during FY 2003-04 to determine whether recent military engagements result in additional requests for services the department may be unable to fully address with the current level of funding.

## **Final Budget Changes from the Proposed Budget**

None.

## **CORE FUNCTION: VETERANS SERVICES**

<b>Compensation &amp; Pension Claims Program</b>
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**Program Purpose:** To assess eligibility for compensation for service-connected disabilities and pension funding for disabled veterans, prepare applications, and act as the advocate for veterans and their families to maximize their benefit potential.

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Total Expenditures: \$213,996

Total Staffing: 2.70

- Key Intended Outcome: Veterans and their families achieve maximum benefits.

Compensation & Pension Claims Indicators:	Projected 2002-03	Actual 2002-03	Target 2003-04
# of claims filed	384	N/A	350
# of awards received	228	N/A	250
\$ of awards received	\$1,193,452	N/A	\$1,300,000

### College Fee Waiver Program

**Program Purpose:** To assess eligibility for and approve applications submitted by children of disabled veterans for waivers in tuition and systemwide fees for University of California, California State University and community colleges to assist them in achieving higher education.

Total Expenditures: \$11,888

Total Staffing: 0.15

- Key Intended Outcome: Children of disabled veterans receive higher education.

College Fee Waiver Indicators:	Projected 2002-03	Actual 2002-03	Target 2003-04
# of waivers granted	152	N/A	160
\$ of waivers granted	\$284,696	N/A	\$250,000

### Health Care Enrollment Program

**Program Purpose:** To enroll veterans for health care through the Department of Veterans Assistance, and to advocate on behalf of the veteran for ongoing medical care to maximize potential benefits and services.

Total Expenditures: \$11,888

Total Staffing: 0.15

- Key Intended Outcome: Veterans achieve maximum health care benefits.

Health Care Enrollment Indicators:	Projected 2002-03	Actual 2002-03	Target 2003-04
# of claims filed	162	N/A	150

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## Health & Human Support Services

**VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER  
APPROPRIATION SUMMARY  
Fiscal Year 2003-04**

**ADMINISTERED BY: VETRANS SERVICE OFFICER**

Appropriation	FY 2002-03		FY 2003-04	
	Actual	Position Allocations	BOS Approved Budget	Position Allocations
<b>GENERAL FUND</b>				
Veterans Service Officer	\$ 217,168	3	\$ 235,995	3
<b>TOTAL ALL FUNDS</b>	\$ 217,168	3	\$ 235,995	3

# Veterans Service Officer

## General Fund

**Fund: 100**

**Subfund: 0**

**Appropriation: 53650**

Budget Category (1)	Actual 2001-02 (2)	Actual 2002-03 (3)	Dept Req 2003-04 (4)	CEO Rec 2003-04 (5)	BOS Adopted 2003-04 (6)
<b>Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>					
1002 Salaries and Wages	143,085	152,276	152,035	152,035	152,035
1300 P.E.R.S.	9,361	9,951	18,723	18,723	18,723
1301 F.I.C.A.	10,710	11,386	11,631	11,631	11,631
1310 Employee Group Ins	12,950	18,641	23,478	23,478	23,478
1315 Workers Comp Insurance	1,030	720	456	456	456
<b>Total Salaries &amp; Benefits</b>	<b>177,136</b>	<b>192,974</b>	<b>206,323</b>	<b>206,323</b>	<b>206,323</b>
<b>Services &amp; Supplies</b>					
2051 Communications - Telephone	7,919	9,973	11,796	11,796	11,796
2254 Witness & Criminal Indictment		30			
2290 Maintenance - Equipment			85	85	85
2439 Membership/Dues	350	350	350	350	350
2511 Printing	381	420	500	500	500
2523 Office Supplies & Exp	543	898	1,000	700	700
2524 Postage	524	591	1,000	750	750
2554 Commissioner's Fees	4,740	5,010	6,780	5,000	5,000
2709 Rents & Leases - Computer SW	795	840	857	857	857
2710 Rents & Leases - Equipment				1,800	1,800
2840 Special Dept Expense	2,024	600	1,650	1,650	1,650
2844 Training	600	600	900	600	600
2931 Travel & Transportation	2,658	2,852	3,623	3,000	3,000
2932 Mileage	1,900	2,030	2,324	2,000	2,000
<b>Total Services &amp; Supplies</b>	<b>22,434</b>	<b>24,194</b>	<b>30,865</b>	<b>29,088</b>	<b>29,088</b>
<b>Charges From Departments</b>					
5291 I/T Maintenance - Computer Equipm			508	508	508
5552 I/T - MIS Services			76	76	76
<b>Total Charges From Departments</b>			<b>584</b>	<b>584</b>	<b>584</b>
<b>Gross Budget</b>	<b>199,570</b>	<b>217,168</b>	<b>237,772</b>	<b>235,995</b>	<b>235,995</b>
<b>Net Budget</b>	<b>199,570</b>	<b>217,168</b>	<b>237,772</b>	<b>235,995</b>	<b>235,995</b>
<b>Less: Revenues</b>					
7204 State Aid Veterans Affairs	(28,425)	(29,440)	(32,739)	(28,000)	(28,000)
7234 State Aid - Mandated Costs	(1,610)		(1,500)	(1,500)	(1,500)
7240 Federal Admin Food Stamp Pro	(1,595)				
8780 Contributions from Other Funds				(13,000)	(13,000)
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>(31,630)</b>	<b>(29,440)</b>	<b>(34,239)</b>	<b>(42,500)</b>	<b>(42,500)</b>
<b>Net County Cost</b>	<b>167,940</b>	<b>187,728</b>	<b>203,533</b>	<b>193,495</b>	<b>193,495</b>